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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Harry A. Loder and Duane T. Smith

Serial No.: 09/643,333

Filed: August 22, 2000

For: OPTICAL FIBER CONNECTOR
SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 2874

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Dkt. No.: 55243US009

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

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In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§ 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of a first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits, and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these materials, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from 3M Innovative Properties Company Deposit Account No. 13-3723. Two copies of this sheet marked DUPLICATE are enclosed for the purpose of charging the listed account.

This application is a continuation-in-part application of Serial No.09/443,713, filed December 1, 1999, and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with Rule 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) only copies of those documents not previously cited and submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. 09/443,713 are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R § 1.97(e)(1), Applicant hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present statement, as evidenced by the date of the enclosed search report.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Néstor F. Ho
Néstor F. Ho, Reg. No. 39,460

Date: August 15, 2001

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